

Special Session

Agenda Item #	3
Meeting Date	20 June 2005
Prepared By	Sara Anne Daines HCD Director
Approved By	Barbara Matthews City Manager

Discussion Item	Resolution of Appointment of the Takoma Park Poet Laureate
Background	<p>On May 23, 2005, the Council approved, upon the recommendation of the Arts and Humanities Commission, the establishment of the Takoma Park Poet Laureate program. Nominations for poet laureate were solicited from the community following the establishment of the program. A number of local residents were nominated and are to be interviewed by the Arts and Humanities Commission on Saturday, June 18. The finalist is to be presented to the Council for consideration on Monday, June 20.</p> <p>To be considered for appointment an individual must be a resident of Takoma Park. He or she must be an active practitioner, a published poet who has demonstrated achievement over an extended time period, recognized by the literary community, and someone who has been engaged in teaching or public speaking or otherwise involved in the community.</p> <p>The selected individual will serve as Takoma Park's Poet Laureate for a period of two years. Their responsibilities will include an inaugural public reading of their work at the Community Center opening this Fall, the development of a project that promotes poetry and writing, and appearances at a variety of public service venues.</p>
Policy	<p>"To expand public awareness of, involvement in, and access to the arts and arts opportunities and to create an environment which promotes interaction, dialogue, discussion and lasting relationships between artists and the public."</p> <p>Ordinance 2003-01 Establishing the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission</p>
Fiscal Impact	The Poet Laureate will receive a \$1,000 stipend from the Arts and Humanities Commission's FY05 budget.
Attachments	Resolution appointing the Takoma Park Poet Laureate
Recommendation	To approve the proposed resolution
Special Consideration	

Introduced by:

Resolution 2005-

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING
THE TAKOMA PARK POET LAUREATE**

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Poet Laureate program was established in May 2005 as a means of honoring the achievement of a local poet, while encouraging young and old to strive for greater expressive abilities and creating a wider appreciation of poetry and literature; and

WHEREAS, a poet laureate is a symbol of the important role the arts play in our civic life and creative expression and can be a source of pride and public pleasure for all Takoma Park residents.

WHEREAS, the Arts and Humanities Commission, after careful consideration, has forwarded for Council approval, its recommendation for the appointment of _____ as Takoma Park's first Poet Laureate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND that _____ is hereby appointed the first Takoma Park Poet Laureate for a two-year period beginning June 21, 2005 and ending June 30, 2007.

Adopted this _____ day of _____ 2005.

ATTEST:

Jessie Carpenter
City Clerk